

Fire-Rescue Department Engine Brownout Plan and Lifeguard Reductions Update



Public Safety & Neighborhood Services Committee
June 8, 2011
Fire Chief Javier Mainar

Report Focus

- 14th Monthly Report to PS&NS
- Brownout Plan
 - Workload and Response Time Statistics Update
 - Training and Inspection Impacts Adjustments
 - Restoral Plan based on Proposed FY2012 Budget
- Lifeguard Budget Reductions
 - Training Impacts Adjustments
 - Restoral Plan

Brownout Plan Refresher

- Brownouts Defined
 - Temporary closure of 0-8 fire engines per day
 - Implemented in the 13 stations with more than one response unit
- Brownouts implemented on February 6, 2010 as a budget reduction measure to save \$11.5M in overtime
- Each brown-out unit saves approximately \$1.4M annually
- Today's report covers 6/1/10 though 5/31/11
 - 113,390 emergency incidents during this period
 - 3,675 fires
 - 96,451 medical
 - 13,264 other

Statistical Summary of Brownouts

- Out-of-Service Time for Participating Engines = **40% - 100%**
- Compliance with 5 min. First Unit Arrival Response Time
 - National Standard = **90%** Fire-Rescue Interim Target = **55%**
 - City-Wide Same Period Last Year = **55%**
 - City-Wide During Brownouts = **52%**
 - Participating Districts Same Period Last Year = **29% - 86%**
 - Participating Districts During Brownouts = **24% - 80%**
- Average Response Times (minutes/seconds)
 - City-Wide Same Period Last Year = **5:03**
 - City-Wide During Brownouts = **5:13**
 - Participating Districts Same Period Last Year = **3:47-6:11**
 - Participating Districts During Brownouts = **3:51-6:44**

Effective Fire Force

- Defined as the number of firefighters required to perform operations at a typical single family dwelling fire
 - 14-15 firefighters depending on whether an aerial ladder is deployed
 - SDFD achieves this with 3 engines, 1 truck and 1 battalion chief
- Compliance with 9 min. Effective Fire Force Arrival Response Time
 - National Standard = 90% Fire-Rescue Interim Target = 72%
 - City-Wide Same Period Last Year = **84%**
 - City-Wide During Brownouts = **79%**
 - Participating Districts Same Period Last Year = **50% - 100%**
 - Participating Districts During Brownouts = **20% - 100%**
- Average Effective Fire Force Response Times
 - City-Wide Same Period Last Year = **6.98 minutes**
 - City-Wide During Brownouts = **7.40 minutes**

Non-Emergency Impacts and Adjustments

- Reduced Manipulative Training Opportunities
 - Fewer units makes it difficult to go out-of-service for training
- Training Adjustments Made
 - Units allowed out-of-service at one time increased from 12 to 14
 - Units in Department-wide training sessions decreased from 5 to 3
 - More training delivered at fire stations or online
- Delays in Completing Fire Inspections
 - Fewer units are busier with emergency responses
 - New technology (Field Collection Unit) Program instituted
 - Department anticipates that real-time collection of reporting data will improve overdue inspection monitoring and correction
- Inspection Adjustments Made
 - Light duty staff assigned when available

Brownout Restorals

- Mayor's Proposed FY2012 Budget provides \$8.7M
 - July 1, 2011 – Brownouts reduced from 8 to 4 per day
 - January 1, 2012 – Final 4 engines restored and brownouts ended
- Council Action
 - Full restoral of brown-outs on July 1
 - Restoral of Lifeguard reductions, including relief guard positions and training opportunities

Lifeguard Reductions

- Impacts from budget reductions
 - Reduction of Relief guards
 - Reduction of Lifeguard II Training Coordinator
 - Reduction of Sergeant assigned to Scheduling
 - Reduction of Marine Safety Lieutenant
 - Reduction of Overtime Budget
- Non-Personnel
 - Overlap Training Wednesdays Eliminated
 - River Rescue and Dive Team Training reduced



LG Training Impacts

- Loss/Reduction of Training Opportunities
 - Significant changes to Winter training plan implemented
 - Pre-shift and in-service training modules developed
- FY'12 Budget
 - \$200,000.00 in OT restored and 3 LG II FTEs
 - Refresher training for current full time lifeguards
 - Restore River Rescue and Dive Team Training
 - Boating Safety Unit classes and/or academy
- LG Division report on training impacts and recommendations for FY'12 to be completed in the next 30 days

Questions?